

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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14

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 PC-01 USIA-06 IO-13 INR-07 DODE-00

AGR-05 INT-05 COME-00 IGA-02 EB-07 DHA-02 /116 W

----- 118132

P 031645Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4234

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 6558

FROM CHARGE

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: EAGR, EALR, EAID, EPEP, GH

SUB: GHANA'S FOOD EMERGENCY

REF: A) ACCRA 6545 (B) ACCRA 5593

1. REF A CONVEYS TEXT OF LETTER GIVEN TO USAID DIRECTOR COKER SEPT 2 BY PLANNING COMMISSIONER GARDINER REQUESTING PL-480 TITLE II PROGRAM ASSISTANCE TO MEET FOOD SHORTAGE IN GHANA'S NORTHERN REGION. AS REPORTED IN REF B THE FOOD SITUATION HAS BEEN BECOMING CLEARLY EVIDENT IN RECENT MONTHS. THE GOG IS VERY HESITANT, PRESUMABLY IN VIEW OF GHANA'S VERY SHAKY ECONOMIC CONDITION, TO LET THIS KNOWLEDGE BECOME PUBLIC. HENCE GARDINER'S LETTER WAS MARKED CONFIDENTIAL AND HE ASKED COKER IF THE USG COULD HANDLE FOOD ASSISTANCE AS DISCREETLY AS POSSIBLE. IN HANDING LETTER COKER, DR. GARDINER SAID THAT THE GOG WAS MAKING A "PERSONAL" APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S. AND CANADA FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE. LETTER IS COUCHED IN VERY CAREFUL TERMS OBVIOUSLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID, EVEN IN CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION, ADMITTING THAT A CRISIS NOW EXISTS.

2. I AM CONCERNED THAT BY PUTTING THIS REQUEST TO US CONFIDENTIALLY AND REQUESTING THAT IT BE HANDLED DISCREETLY, USG WILL BE PUT IN POSITION OF HELPING GOG COVER UP VERY REAL
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FAMINE SITUATION. I HAVE, ACCORDINGLY,

REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH DR. GARDINER NEXT WEEK FOR COKER AND
MYSELF. I PLAN TO POINT OUT TO HIM THE PROBLEMS THIS
REQUEST CAUSES FOR US AND THE OBVIOUS IMPOSSIBILITY OF HANDLING
SUCH ASSISTANCE DISCREETLY IF RPT IF THE U.S. IS ABLE
TO ASSIST. IN OUR VIEW THIS WILL STRENGTHEN GARDINER'S HAND IN
HELPING GHANA'S SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL (SMC) FACE
SITUATION REALISTICALLY.
LINEHAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ACCRA06558
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760336-0328
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760995/aaaadddb.tel
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Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 76 ACCRA 6545, 76 ACCRA 5593
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Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GHANA'S FOOD EMERGENCY
TAGS: EAGR, EALR, EAID, EPAP, GH, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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